National Aids Control Programme

2073. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH HAKUR: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have launched National AIDS Control programme;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to educate and train all doctors in India for treatment of AIDS under the 'National AIDS Control Programme';

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) if the reply to (c) above be in the negative, what steps Government propose to take to combat this dreaded disease;

(f) whether Indian Medical Association has proposed to start its own training and education programme on treatment of AIDS to all Indian doctors; and

(g) if so, in what manner Government propose to encourage their activities relating to education and training for treatments of AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) The National AIDS Control Programme was started in 1987 for prevention and control of AIDS. The activities undertake so far include:—

— organising a surveillance system for determining the prevalence and infectivity trends in groups practising high risk behaviour.

— promoting safety of blood and blood products by establishment testing facilities for screening blood in blood banks on a zonal basis.

— health education.

— formulation of guidelines for hospital infection control.

— strengthening of 13 regional hospitals and training of clinicians and para medical staff in diagnosis and management of HIV infected patients.

– implementing focused activity plans in States/UTs where a relatively larger number of HIV infected persons have been detected on the basis of surveillance.

Negotiations have been concluded recently with the World Bank for funding the National AIDS Project for a period of five years beginning April, 1992 involving and outlay of US $ 100 million (Rs. 270 crores). Under this project prevention and control activities will be inplemented throughout the country.

(c) to (e) The Government has decided that for the diagnosis and management of AIDS, one specialist from each hospital of metropolitan cities will be selected for giving training in AIDS case detection. They will be termed as PRAD (Physician responsible for AIDS diagnosis.) These PRADS after being trained adequately, will further train and disseminate knowledge in the clinical diagnosis and management of AIDS cases in junior level doctors.

At the district and peripheral hospitals and for patients services of other medical institutions, one doctor each will be trained for detection of clinical aids.

(f) The Indian Medical Association has taken up the project of training doctors for management, diagnosis and prevention of AIDS. First training course was held on 19.2.92. A symposium was held at the 9th National College of General Practitioners. A format for training of doctors is being evolved by calling the experts from WHO, ICMR, medical colleges, blood banks and other related specialists to draw out a format for training of the doctors.

(g) No request for financial assistance has been received by the Government from the Indian Medical Association.